

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method of processing image data, comprising the steps of:
5 inputting image data;
 determining whether or not a portion of the image data is an outline portion to
 generate an outline characteristic;
 selecting a correction coefficient from a set of predetermined correction
 coefficients based upon said outline characteristic; and
 applying the selected correction coefficient to the portion of the image data.

10 2. The method of processing image data according to claim 1 wherein the image data is
 scanned.

15 3. The method of processing image data according to claim 2 further comprising an
 additional step of correcting the scanned image data prior to said applying step.

20 4. The method of processing image data according to claim 1 wherein said correction
 coefficients include intensity correction coefficients.

25 5. The method of processing image data according to claim 1 wherein said correction
 coefficients include sharpness correction coefficients.

30 6. The method of processing image data according to claim 1 further comprising additional
 steps of:
 inputting user input values prior to said selecting step; and
 selecting said correction coefficient from said set of said predetermined correction
 coefficients based upon said outline characteristic and a combination of said user input
 values.

35 7. The method of processing image data according to claim 6 wherein said user input
 values include an intensity notch signal.

8. The method of processing image data according to claim 6 wherein said user input values include an image type signal.

9. The method of processing image data according to claim 6 wherein said user input values include customize data.

10. The method of processing image data according to claim 6 wherein said user input values include a background removal signal.

10 11. The method of processing image data according to claim 1 further comprising additional steps of:
further determining an image intensity level of the portion of the image data prior to said applying step; and
selecting said correction coefficient from said set of said predetermined correction
15 coefficients based upon said outline characteristic and said image intensity level.

12. The method of processing image data according to claim 11 wherein said predetermined correction coefficients are previously stored in a table.

20 13. The method of processing image data according to claim 1 wherein said determining step further determines whether or not said outline portion has a particular direction.

14. The method of processing image data according to claim 13 wherein said particular direction includes a right edge, a left edge, a horizontal edge and a vertical edge,
25 corresponding edge information being generated.

15. A system for processing image data, comprising:
an image data input unit for inputting image data;
a space filter process unit connected to said image data input unit for determining
30 at least whether or not a portion of the image data is an outline portion to generate an outline characteristic; and

an intensity correction unit connected to said space filter process unit for selecting a correction coefficient from a set of predetermined correction coefficients based upon the outline characteristic and applying the selected correction coefficient to the portion of the image data.

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16. The system for processing image data according to claim 15 wherein the image data input unit is an image scanner.

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17. The system for processing image data according to claim 16 further comprising a pre-correction unit connected to said scanner and said space filter process unit for correcting the scanned image data to generate preprocessed image data prior to outputting the preprocessed image data to said space filter process unit.

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18. The system for processing image data according to claim 15 wherein the correction coefficients include intensity correction coefficients.

19. The system for processing image data according to claim 15 wherein the correction coefficients include sharpness correction coefficients.

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20. The system for processing image data according to claim 15 further comprises an operation unit connected to said space filter process unit for inputting user input values, wherein said space filter process unit selects the correction coefficient from said set of the predetermined correction coefficients based upon the outline characteristic and a combination of the user input values.

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21. The system for processing image data according to claim 20 wherein the user input values include an intensity notch signal.

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22. The system for processing image data according to claim 20 wherein the user input values include an image type signal.

23. The system for processing image data according to claim 20 wherein the user input values include customize data.

24. The system for processing image data according to claim 20 wherein the user input values include a background removal signal.

25. The system for processing image data according to claim 15 wherein said space filter process unit further determines an image intensity level of the portion of the image data prior to applying the selected correction coefficient and selects the correction coefficient from the set of the predetermined correction coefficients based upon the outline characteristic and the image intensity level.

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26. The system for processing image data according to claim 25 further comprises a storage unit connected to said intensity correction unit for storing the predetermined correction coefficients in a table format.

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27. The system for processing image data according to claim 15 wherein said space filter process unit further determines whether or not the outline portion has a particular direction.

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28. The system for processing image data according to claim 27 wherein the particular direction includes a right edge, a left edge, a horizontal edge and a vertical edge, said space filter process unit generating corresponding edge information.

29. A storage medium for storing compute readable instructions for processing image data, the computer instructions performing the steps of:

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inputting user input values;

determining whether or not a portion of image data is an outline portion to generate an outline characteristic;

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selecting a correction coefficient from a set of predetermined correction coefficients based upon the outline characteristic and the user input values; and

applying the selected correction coefficient to the portion of the image data.

30. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 29
wherein the image data is scanned.

31. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 30
5 further comprising an additional step of correcting the scanned image data prior to said
applying step.

32. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 29
wherein said correction coefficients include intensity correction coefficients.

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33. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 29
wherein said correction coefficients include sharpness correction coefficients.

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34. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 29
wherein said user input values include an intensity notch signal.

35. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 29
wherein said user input values include an image type signal.

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36. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 29
wherein said user input values include customize data.

37. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 29
wherein said user input values include a background removal signal.

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38. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 29
further comprising additional instructions for performing the steps:

 further determining an image intensity level of the portion of the image data prior
 to said applying step; and

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 selecting said correction coefficient from said set of said predetermined correction
 coefficients based upon said outline characteristic and said image intensity level.

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40. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 29 wherein said predetermined correction coefficients are previously stored in a table.

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41. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 29 wherein said determining step further determines whether or not said outline portion has a particular direction.

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42. The storage medium for storing compute readable instructions according to claim 41 wherein said particular direction includes a right edge, a left edge, a horizontal edge and a vertical edge, corresponding edge information being generated.